Dear Students,

Welcome back to a new semester. Many students scored fantastic results in the first semester, particularly those who are in their first year. Congratulations to each of you.

If you experienced difficulties and failed a subject, do not be discouraged. The University offers a number of academic support services that can assist you. If you are unsure of where to turn for help, ask a Campus Life staff member or your Course Coordinator and they will refer you.

To the students who will be completing their studies this semester - don’t forget that the Career Development Service is there to assist you in your employment search. Be sure you access the Service early so that you don’t miss out on any opportunities. Students who are considering changing their program or continuing on to a higher degree program are also encouraged to consult the Service, as well as their faculty, to assess their options.

We are delighted to report that the first unit of the Core, which was studied by ACU students in Florence, has been a success. The Core is an exciting program for students that uses a learning and teaching model which reflects students’ interests and capacity to blend classroom learning, technology and learning in the community.

Teaching of the Core on campus commenced this semester. We look forward to receiving student feedback, and to building further opportunities for students to study Core units in overseas and remote Australian settings.

Many students will soon receive an email invitation to participate in the University Experience Survey. All students are encouraged to participate. Your feedback will assist us in improving the student experience at ACU.

In this Bulletin you will read about a number of students who have made the most of exciting opportunities in sport, on exchange and at overseas conferences.
I encourage you to plan your own university engagement; think about what takes your interest and what you would like to be involved in this semester.

Wishing you a happy and successful second semester.

Anne Cummins
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching)

ACU WINS GOLD AT UNI GAMES

Last month over 100 athletes from all campuses competed at the Eastern University Games and the Southern University Games, which were held in Tamworth and the La Trobe Valley respectively.

Our Victorian athletes achieved fantastic results at the Southern University Games, including four medals and a strong final placing in basketball and netball. Georgia Brock won ACU’s very first Southern University Games gold medal in cross country. The collective effort of our athletes earned the University its third Spirit of the Games Trophy as well as its first Hugh McKechnie Trophy, which awards the highest per capita point score.

Athletes from the Brisbane, Canberra and Sydney campuses participated in the Eastern University Games, winning medals in touch football and volleyball and finishing fourth place in the per capita ranking.

Southern and Eastern University Games Medal Tally

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medal</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Competitor</th>
<th>Campus</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Georgia Brock</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>Mixed Touch Football</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>North Sydney and Strathfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Michelle Delaney</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Nathan Buschkuehl</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Matthew Pecora</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women’s Volleyball</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>North Sydney, Strathfield and Brisbane</td>
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ACU APOLOGISES FOR SYSTEM GLITCH

The University would like to apologise to students for the system breakdown that occurred when results were released. The pressures of many students accessing the system at the same time led to a high load demand that prevented some people from accessing their results. IT and Student Administration are working to ensure that it doesn’t happen again.

We are grateful to students who alert us to an issue, and who provide critical feedback on University experiences. Some students use social media sites in a negative way. While ACU accepts that it is subject to criticism at times, it is not acceptable to use language that is demeaning or abusive to staff on social media sites or through University surveys.

While constructive criticism is always welcome, being able to express it in a way that is professional, clear and of assistance is important and appreciated. Students are reminded that they are training for the professions, and that comments on social media sites may not be entirely private. Abusive comments reflect on your capacity to act as a professional. The ACU graduate attributes of critical analysis, clarity of communication, and courtesy and respect are to be demonstrated in the way that feedback is given to the University.

Comments on social media sites are subject to ACU’s Student Conduct policy, which states that derogatory, defaming or bullying material is unacceptable and that offenders will be subject to disciplinary action. Abusive or offensive comments on University surveys will be disregarded. Make your feedback count – express it professionally.

SIGN UP FOR THE ACU NATIONAL ORATORY COMPETITION

The second annual ACU National Oratory Competition is about to kick off with Local Oratory Competitions to be held on all campuses during August and September. This year’s topic will resonate with the student community and offer up some great potential for robust discussion.

“Does ‘social media’ create genuine community?”

Students who wish to register can do so through their local Campus Life Office, or by contacting Eric Robinson on (07) 3623 7250 or via email: Eric.Robinson@acu.edu.au

Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brisbane Oratory Competition</td>
<td>Tuesday 4th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballarat Oratory Competition</td>
<td>Tuesday 21st August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne Oratory Competition</td>
<td>Wednesday 5th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canberra Oratory Competition</td>
<td>Tuesday 21st August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strathfield Oratory Competition</td>
<td>Tuesday 4th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Sydney Oratory Competition</td>
<td>Monday 3rd September</td>
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The 2012 National Oratory Competition Final will be hosted by Brisbane Campus on Wednesday 19th September.

Congratulations Student Barometer survey winners!

Last semester the Student Barometer Survey asked students for their opinion on what’s working, what’s frustrating and what they think of their ACU experience to date.

3,500 students (2,900 domestic and 600 international) responded with invaluable feedback that will help the University to improve the student experience for current and future students.

Congratulations to the 100 respondents who were selected at random to win $50 Coles Group and Myer gift cards.

Common Good winners announced

To celebrate the launch of ACU’s Core Curriculum, students were invited to source YouTube videos that depict Common Good themes in a concise yet motivational and/or thought-provoking manner.

These videos will potentially be used as a resource to enhance the values and teachings of the Core.

Congratulations to the following students who were rewarded with $200 gift cards for their submissions:

Andreas Alvin (North Sydney)
Anthony Petrolo (North Sydney)
Natasha McGregor (Melbourne)
Paul Irrianto (North Sydney)

Congratulations
Student Barometer survey winners!

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3,500 students (2,900 domestic and 600 international) responded with invaluable feedback that will help the University to improve the student experience for current and future students.

Congratulations to the 100 respondents who were selected at random to win $50 Coles Group and Myer gift cards.
ACU has now launched The Core, a program of study that raises some of the most fundamental questions on human experience and meaning. It is designed to teach students critical judgement, clear expression, ethical decision-making, and concern for others as individuals and as a community.

For three weeks over June and July, thirteen students from the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, Health Sciences, Education, and Theology and Philosophy, travelled to Florence, Italy to study a cross-institutional unit that was facilitated by Fairfield University (USA) and delivered by lecturers from ACU, Florence University of the Arts and Fairfield University.

As part of the unit, students conducted community service with Misericordia, an organisation that provides support to the marginalised, aged and refugees in the city. Their service included assisting with the transportation of patients to local hospitals and care facilities for treatment.

During their time in Florence, students visited cultural attractions such as the Santa Croce fresco cycle, the Palazzo Vecchio museum, and the Uffizi, Academia and Ospedale degli Innocenti galleries. They also went on field trips to Siena, San Gimignano, San Marco, Assisi and Perugia, and enjoyed weekly dinners with local Italian families.

We would like to congratulate Erin Coates (Strathfield) on winning an Apple iPad for her participation in the survey.

ACU Equity Pathways National Coordinator Catherine O’Donnell, who accompanied students as a Core lecturer, reported that the experience provided students with an immersion into a very different culture.
“Students were able to examine – in both an academic and physical sense - things like survival as opposed to thriving, and how the Italians attend to the common good so that their people flourish,” Catherine said. “The Florentines built their society around helping the underprivileged and so the students were able to see first-hand what principles we need to adopt in order for this to happen in our society”.

“It was a very transformative experience. The students were magnificent, so committed and engaged - they didn’t want to miss any activity. The group adapted very quickly to challenges like hot weather, aged living quarters, and a busy lecture and assessment schedule. One of the students said, “I’m over-awed by the cobblestones, I’m over-awed by the heat, and I’m over-awed by the art. I’m just over-awed”. They pulled together very well as a group and shared a fantastic attitude of: when in Florence, do as the Florentines do.”

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE NURSING IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Since 2007, the School of Nursing, North Sydney campus has been sending students to Broken Hill to experience nursing in a rural setting. For four weeks over June and July, five ACU students were selected for placement in Broken Hill, Bourke, Brewarrina and Walgett.

This placement program, which is a joint venture between ACU and The University of Sydney Department of Rural Health, provides an opportunity for students to engage in primary health care in a context vastly different from their normal environment.

The placement program provides undergraduate nursing students with an Indigenous Australian primary health care experience that is underpinned by culturally safe and supported practice, with education and health promotion being delivered in an Indigenous community by health care providers; and the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to work competently and safely to meet the health care needs of Indigenous Australian people. The concepts of identity, culture, racism and cultural safety are addressed from a holistic perspective with a specific focus on Indigenous Australian peoples.

Prior to placement in the Indigenous communities, students participated in interactive sessions on cultural awareness, cultural respect, managing and coping in isolation, bush survival and health awareness issues. They were each assigned a mentor while on placement and had access to phone and email.

Professor Anne Cummins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching) and ACUNSA provided financial support to assist students with the costs associated with undertaking this placement. Students who would like to enquire about future placement opportunities should contact Jane Allnutt on Jane.Allnutt@acu.edu.au
ACU STUDENTS ATTEND GLOBAL HUMANITARIANISM CONFERENCE

Last month International Development Studies students Sanaa Chadda (Strathfield) and Louise Reid-Simmons (Melbourne) represented ACU at the Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN) leadership conference, ‘Global Perspectives on Humanitarian Action’, held at Fairfield University in Connecticut, USA.

Sanaa and Louise joined students from Jesuit colleges and universities around the world to discuss all facets of humanitarianism and to hear from international aid professionals who are engaged in advocacy and direct service work. The students were given practical tools to support the future pursuit of humanitarian relief work and developed a strategy for humanitarian curriculum to bring back to ACU.

Sanaa delivered a presentation on the effect of poverty in India and the impacts it has had on society, along with the changes being brought into society through development work. Reflecting on her learnings from the conference, Sanaa said, “Attendees were drawn out of their comfort zone and gained an important perspective: it is important to connect, communicate, and coordinate with the local community before taking action rather than simply entering into a community in crisis looking to fix a situation.”

“We gained a sense of the varied type of work that is available in the international aid field and engaged in an online humanitarian crisis simulation. Groups worked together to discuss how to respond to ongoing developments; at the same time they formed relationships and built community outside of their university cohort,” she said.

Louise reported that she learned many things at the conference that would impact her own relief work. “It was an amazing experience. I made some great connections with professionals and students alike. I got a real feel for what I was doing in my own relief work in Cambodia. I feel so motivated to approach my work more academically so it can be shared at conferences like these.”

Help combat human trafficking – wear a bow-tie

Students are encouraged to wear a bow tie on September 7 to support an important cause – ending human trafficking and sexual exploitation in Australia and South-East Asia.

The ‘Stella Fella’ campaign is an initiative of Project Futures, a non-profit organisation that raises awareness and funds for programs that combat human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Money raised contributes to the funding of advocacy and the rescue, recovery, education and reintegration of victims. To get involved, purchase a bow tie from www.stellafella.com
Travel and learn in Europe with ACU Education

Education students who enrol in the 'Education Systems in an International Cultural Context' elective are invited to apply for a three-week study tour of Malta, Europe, which is to be held in November 2013.

Students will develop their social, historical and religious knowledge of school systems in an international context and contrast international perspectives with their understanding of Australian school systems.

The tour will encompass a range of workshops and lectures featuring guest speakers from the University of Malta, the Secretariat for Catholic Education and the Maltese Department of Education.

Travel grants may be available to assist with the cost of undertaking overseas study.

Additional information including a detailed itinerary is available online. For more information please contact Dr Michael T Buchanan via email: michael.buchanan@acu.edu.au

INTERVIEW: JESSICA SWAFFORD - CAMPUS LIFE INTERN

Recent Indiana University graduate Jessica Swafford, who is currently undertaking a six-month internship with Campus Life Ballarat, discusses some of the advantages of doing an AIESEC internship abroad.

AIESEC, an acronym for Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Economiques et Commerciales (International Association of Students in Economics and Management), is the world’s largest youth-run organisation with over 60,000 members present in over 110 countries. With a focus on leadership development, it offers young students the opportunity to participate in international internships, experience leadership and participate in a global learning environment.

How did you get involved with AIESEC?

I found out about AIESEC during my first year at Indiana University. I was studying Biology (minoring in Business and Psychology) and because I was pre-Med, the university encouraged me to volunteer abroad. AIESEC also offers volunteer programs in countries such as Africa where you can go and teach communities about health issues such as AIDS.

The experience and the people I met at my first AIESEC conference is a big reason I stayed with AIESEC. When I started I joined the events team and later became a member and leader of the Outgoing Exchange Committee, which recruits students to go abroad. I did that for a long time and decided that I should go and experience an internship for myself once I had graduated. I knew I wanted to work abroad and so when I heard about the internship opportunity with Campus Life in Ballarat, I applied.

What was the appeal of this particular internship opportunity?

I really wanted to find something that would assist with my professional development. I wanted an internship that offered a great deal of responsibility rather than the internships involving volunteering or working in a team with lots of other interns (which are still amazing opportunities). The Campus Life internship was attractive because I would be their only intern and would be working closely with experienced local and national ACU staff. I thought I would be a good fit for this role because I have event management skills from my work with AIESEC and other organisations. I also thought that Australia would be awesome!

What kind of work have you been doing with Campus Life?

I’ve been helping to coordinate various events and programs at the Ballarat campus. Right now I’m assisting with the establishment of a program where students can sign up for discounted guitar lessons. It’s a ten-week program, with two sessions per week and a final performance at the end. The program was successfully run on the Canberra campus last year and so we’re trying it in Ballarat. I think it will be a great opportunity for ACU Ballarat students to bond with their peers while exploring their creative side.

During the month of July I will be helping Marketing & External Relations with University Experience Day at the Ballarat campus, and then travelling to Melbourne to assist with the Midyear Orientation. I am also involved in the planning process for the Ballarat Open Day in August, as well as with the National Oratory Competition.
How does ACU Ballarat compare to Indiana University?

There are a lot of differences! My home university in Bloomington, Indiana had over 40,000 students on the main campus. Some of the larger classes had over 300 students and so it was always really difficult to speak to a professor. There’s less of a gap between staff and students at ACU, it’s a more close-knit community where the staff know most of the students’ names.

What are some of your favourite things about Australia so far?

I haven’t been here long, but I really like pavlova! And the vegetables here, they’re generally much bigger than those in the USA. I’m also enjoying Hamish & Andy and weekend trips to Melbourne and Sydney. What I don’t like is driving on the opposite side of the road, I’m still not used to that. Also, the winter here is not nearly as bad as it gets in Indiana, but it was hard adjusting to 5-10 degrees coming from 35-degree weather.

How do you think this internship will benefit your future career?

I haven’t quite decided what I would like to do career-wise when I return to the USA; this experience will probably give me a little more clarity. I may go back for graduate school or to study law but for the next year or two I plan to build my professional skills by working. If I end up working for a multinational organisation then I believe that this international experience will be a huge benefit.

Would you recommend that ACU students explore internship opportunities with AIESEC?

I definitely recommend it, there’s no other experience like it. There are many programs out there that offer internships abroad, however the great advantage with AIESEC is that you will automatically gain a network of local students and graduates wherever you end up working. These people really look after you, they’ll take you out and show you around outside of your internship.

The AIESEC members in Melbourne actually threw me a surprise party when I first arrived. Five members picked me up from the airport. They took me to a grocery store and bought me some Australian items like Tim Tams and Vegemite – they were mostly just trying to fill in some time because waiting at the residence of an AIESEC member and ACU student, Matthew Lay, were around 40 AIESEC members waiting to surprise me.

In any internship you do through AIESEC there will always be a large network of people to connect with, even when you’re located an hour and a half from a major city like I am. You’ll never be alone. It has been an amazing opportunity so far.

To find out more about AIESEC, visit www.aiesecaustralia.org

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Australian Veterans’ Children Assistance Trust is offering scholarships to full-time university students who are children and grandchildren of ex-service men and women. Recipients are selected on merit and who, without assistance, would be unable to start or complete studies without financial difficulty.

Applications open on August 18. To apply visit www.avcat.org.au
Congratulations to Caroline Taleski and Melinda Brockhus for representing ACU in the Jane Goodall Institute’s Live the Change Challenge — a fund-raising initiative that encourages people to take three simple actions every day, for 21 days, that will help make the world a better place.

Sustainable ACU recognised this initiative as a way of encouraging positive behaviour change and of demonstrating how small steps can make a big difference to the environment. Caroline and Melinda volunteered to participate and completed the Challenge in early July.

**Caroline Taleski**  
Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Arts (Humanities), Melbourne

**My life changes:**
1. Have three-minute showers.
2. Stop buying take-away and packaged food.
3. Set aside an hour every day to write to a politician about issues that affect the environment.
4. I work in a children’s clothes store and so I’m constantly giving out plastic bags. I decided to ask people if they need a bag before assuming they needed one.

**What I learned:**
That living sustainably is easy; become aware of how your actions impact the environment and make those impacts positive.

**Melinda Brockhus**  
Bachelor of Education (Primary), Melbourne

**My life changes:**
1. Be Orangutan Friendly. Consume only palm oil-free foods.
2. Speak up! Send one letter each day to either an editor, a politician or a CEO with a positive suggestion on how to improve the life of people, animals or the environment.
3. Practise a random act of kindness every day.
4. Refuse plastic bags – they are a really bad habit!

**What I learned:**
The Challenge brought together everything I believe about being the change you want to see in the world. It made me realise that every small change is a step towards a better future and showing others how easy it can be to make these changes is one of the most positives things we can do for our planet! As Dr. Suess said - “Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot nothing is going to get better. It’s not!”

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**Melbourne students stamp out stress!**

To help alleviate the stress of exams and assessments, last semester the Melbourne campus held Stamp Out Stress Day – an event that offered students last-minute academic assistance and the chance to participate in fun, stress-reducing activities.

Students enjoyed a free morning tea as well as access to movies, video and board games, and workshops on how to study effectively. Cupcake decorating proved to be the most popular activity, with proceeds going to the Youth Support and Advocacy Service.

The Melbourne Campus Life team looks forward to helping students to reduce their stress levels in Semester Two!
STUDENT COMPETITION: CREATE ACU’S GREEN VIDEO SERIES

Sustainable ACU is seeking a talented student (or group of students) to help develop a concept for series of short videos that demonstrate how staff and students can reduce their environmental impact and make a positive contribution to sustainability at ACU.

If you’re a talented actor or filmmaker who has a passion for sustainability and can commit at least two full days to this project in September (potentially including travel to other campuses), this might be for you!

In addition to receiving an Apple iPad 3 (or $800 worth of Myer vouchers for a group working together), the successful entrant/s will gain on-camera experience, contribute to the production and direction of the videos and use their creativity to help inspire the ACU community to be more sustainable.

How to Enter

Create a short video (under two minutes) that illustrates one aspect of sustainable behaviour, such as recycling, energy efficiency or fair trade. Be as creative as you want! Tell us a story, make us laugh, make us cry, use characters and costumes – just as long as someone is on camera and sharing a sustainable message.

Clips can be shot with a video camera or on your phone. They don’t need to look super polished - this is all about coming up with a clever way of telling the sustainability story.

Please submit your video to www.dropitto.me/SustainableACU using the upload password ‘greenvideo’.

Clips must be uploaded by August 20. The winner will be announced on August 24 and filming will commence in early September. Sustainable ACU reserves the right to feature these audition clips on our YouTube channel and Facebook page.

For more information please contact ACU Sustainability Communications Coordinator, Katie McSweeney at Katie.McSweeney@acu.edu.au or on (02) 9739 2002

ADOBE CREATIVE SUITE TUTORIALS

Interested in learning how to use Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Dreamweaver, Acrobat or Bridge? Free video tutorials for programs in the Adobe Creative Suite are now available to all students via Atomic Learning - an online service that provides access to training workshops and programs that can assist with academic study and research.

To start honing your software skills, visit www.atomiclearning.com.au and browse through the extensive training resource library. All students on campus have unrestricted access to this service. Those located off-campus should refer to the Atomic Learning User Guide for access information.

Congratulations to ACU Loyola scholarship graduates

In 2008, ACU awarded four students from Loyola Senior High School with scholarships valued at up to $2,500 p.a. to assist with the costs of studying an undergraduate course at the North Sydney campus.

The initiative was designed to increase opportunities for students from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds to access and succeed at university.

Congratulations to Olivia Ryan (Bachelor of Exercise Science), Lanica Alonzo and Sarah Twal (Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Arts) on successfully completing their degrees last semester.

The students were presented with their testamurs at the ACU Graduation Ceremony held on Tuesday 22 May at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre.